REMARKS

Claim 1 was pending in this application.

Claims 2-23 were previously cancelled.

Claim 1 has been cancelled.

Claims 24-43 have been added.

Claims 24-43 are now pending in this application.

The Applicant respectfully requests consideration and full allowance of Claims 24-43.

I.   OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Office Action objects to the specification as lacking an updated status of a related patent application. The Applicant has amended the specification to include the updated status of the related patent application. The Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

II.   OBJECTION TO THE CLAIMS

The Office Action objects to an informality in Claim 1. The Applicant has cancelled Claim 1. The Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the claims.

III.   DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

The Office Action rejects Claim 1 as claiming the same invention as Claim 1 in U.S. Patent No. 6,664,829. The Applicant has cancelled Claim 1. The Applicant respectfully

requests withdrawal of the double patenting rejection.

IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

The Applicant asserts that all pending claims in the application are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests an early allowance of such claims.

SUMMARY

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *wmunck@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this communication (including any extension of time fee) or credit any overpayment to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: Sept. 14

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